



DSMO File: C2432.0037

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Lars WIKLUND, et al.

Serial No.: 09/773,394

Filed: January 31, 2001

For: PRESERVATION OF BODILY PROTEIN

Asst. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: February 28, 2003

Group Art Unit: 1617

Examiner: M. Bahar

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AMENDMENT/SUBMISSION

This is a response to the Office Action mailed November 1, 2002 in the above-identified application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**FEE CALCULATION**

No additional fee is required.

	No. Claims After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For		Extra Present		Rate	Additional Fee
Total	20	MINUS	*20	=		X		
Indep.	3	MINUS	**3	=		X		
First presentation of multiple dependent claim(s)						X		
TOTAL								\$ -0-

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

## CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

## AMENDMENTS

### In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 15 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(i) as set forth in the "clean" version set forth below. Entry is respectfully requested. A version with markings to show the changes made pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii) is attached hereto as Appendix A.

1. Amended A method of preserving bodily protein stores in a catabolic patient, comprising the concomitant administration of a pair of pharmaceutical agents consisting essentially of (a) a first composition containing at least one of  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate and  $\alpha$ -ketoglutaric acid and being devoid of ammonium, and (b) a second composition containing ammonium and being devoid of a  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate and  $\alpha$ -ketoglutaric acid, the amounts of the pair being effective to preserve skeletal muscle.